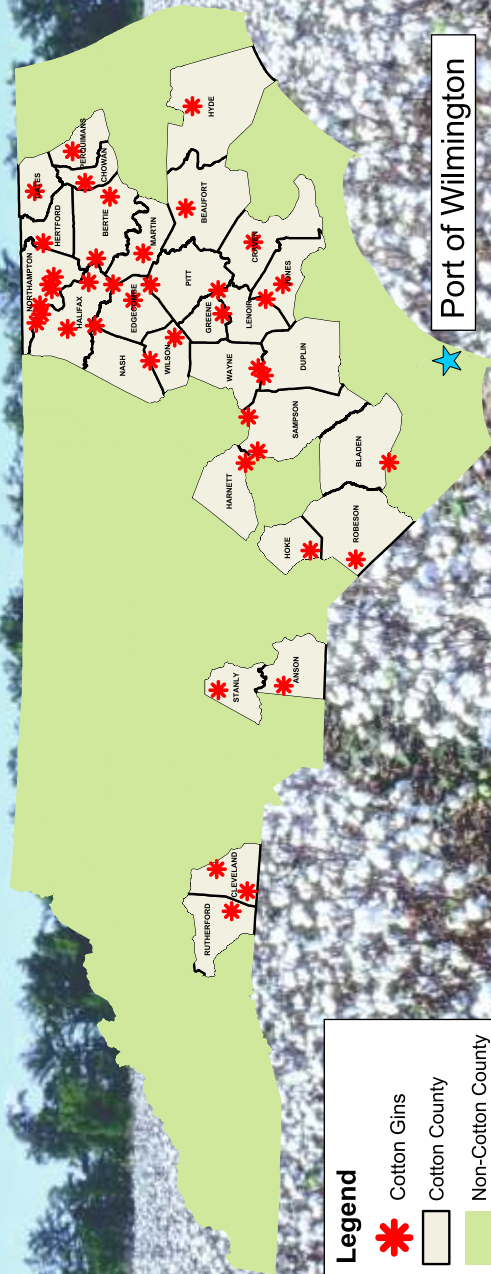


Where Cotton is Grown & Ginned in North Carolina



www.nccotton.org



The North Carolina Cotton Producers Association continues to help achieve gains through research, efficiency in production and marketing. Quality improvement, public relations and legislative policies are designed to help keep the North Carolina cotton producers and other segments of the industry strong and healthy.

A Message from the Commissioner



North Carolina is the fastest-growing cotton region in the U.S., using the most sophisticated technologies to bring the highest-quality fibers at the lowest costs to our international trading partners.

"Our commitment to develop trading relationships around the world is unchallenged and will continue to be an extremely high priority for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture."

Steve W. Troxler

Commissioner Steve Troxler

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Compiled by:
The North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Steve Troxler, Commissioner

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North Carolina COTTON



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North Carolina Cotton Farmers:

- * Use the world's most advanced cotton varieties for maximum yield and highest lint quality
- * Apply the most advanced Global Positioning Systems (GPS) technology:
 - To plant more efficiently
 - To apply crop protection products in the most efficient manner
 - To spread fertilizer according to soil conditions
- * Ensure all planting practices are environmentally sound to create and build a sustainable environment
- * Employ innovative technology and the latest in harvest methods to increase fiber production and efficiency while eliminating fiber contamination
- * Use covered modules to protect cotton from adverse weather



North Carolina Cotton Gins:

- * Have ample capacity to handle increased acreage. State-of-the-art technology is utilized to gin modules and maintain fiber and integrity
- * Are both privately and cooperatively owned and operated by cotton growers



North Carolina Cotton Warehouses:

- * Are licensed and bonded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- * Are capable of handling large volumes of cotton with maximum efficiency
- * Efficiently load and manage inventories. Advanced computer programs manage orderly shipments of cotton to their final destination
- * Assign each bale a unique number, to identify its USDA class, which remains attached to the bale throughout the supply chain



North Carolina Cotton Logistics & Transportation:

- * North Carolina's reputation for delivery and sanctity of contract is the industry standard
- * Careful attention is given to maintain bale integrity throughout the storage period and load-out process
- * Competitive transportation, banking, and risk management infrastructure costs
- * North Carolina has easy access to major East Coast international deep sea warm water ports, lowering overall shipping costs



North Carolina Cotton Shipping & Merchandising Industry:

- * Has proven reliability and dependability
- * Uses sound business practices
- * Keeps costs down